ments. The Commission disappeared entirely with the creation of the Philippine Senate in 1916.

A legislative body of the nature of the Philippine Commission could be expected to pass bills rapidly. The small membership, the lack of an applauding audience, and the immense amount of work which the Commissioners were called upon to perform were not conducive to oratory. Not that all the laws enacted by the Commission were the product of this swift process. Many laws, and these the main pieces of legislation, were the result of months of study and deliberation.

The Philippine Commission with amazing dispatch, energy, and thoroughness laid the basis of Philippine statutory law.

The trouble with the Philippine Commission was that the people had no direct voice in the making of their laws. To remedy this situation, Governor-General Taft insisted that provision be made in the Philippine Bill of 1902 for the setting up of a representative legislative chamber. In the face of opposition from the standpatters and of forebodings from those pessimistically inclined, this unparalleled act in the history of colonization was sanctioned. Mr. Taft, now become Secretary of War, made a special trip to the Philippines to inaugurate the Philippine Assembly on October 16, 1907.

The Philippine Assembly organized with Sergio Osmeña as Speaker and Manuel L. Quezon as Floor Leader. Neither of them yet thirty, both had the gift of leadership which was to make themselves and the Assembly successes. Additional

prestige was gained when Secretary Taft announced that the Speaker of the Philippine Assembly was to be considered the second personage in rank in the Philippines. Gradually the Speaker drew power closer to himself and consolidated his position as the leader of the Filipino element in the government.

Bring to mind here that when the Philippine Assembly